Congressman Secured \$2.5 Million for Project to Help Spur Job Creation and Economic Development in Crucial Corridor

Saugerties, NY - Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY), State Senator John Bonacic and local officials today celebrated the completion and system activation of a new water and sewer system line on a 3.2 mile section of Kings Highway in the Town of Saugerties. The new water and sewer line will provide service to approximately 25 businesses and 20 residences along the stretch of the roadway and help attract new businesses to the area in order to make the corridor a center for development in Ulster County. Hinchey secured \$2.5 million from Congress for the construction project.

"For too long businesses that had wanted to expand or open locations along this roadway were limited by a lack of water and sewer service," said Hinchey. "To address this problem, I secured \$2.5 million in federal funding for a system that will allow for economic development. For the past few years, planners, engineers, plumbers and construction workers have gotten to work, putting in place a new water and sewer line. Today, this corridor is open for new businesses and new jobs."

The total cost of the project was \$5.43 million. Hinchey obtained \$2.1 million for the project as part of the fiscal year 2006 budget and an additional \$393,760 in the fiscal year 2008 budget for a total of \$2.5 million. The federal funds secured by Hinchey are saving each household approximately \$200 in their total annual charges (tax and usage) for the project. In addition to the federal money secured, \$1 million in shovel ready funds were provided by Ulster County and approximately \$1.5 million was secured by State Senator Bonacic.

The new sewer and water line provides service to existing businesses and residents who often experience failing wells and septic systems, while also providing service to companies seeking to relocate or start-up a business in the Hudson Valley.

As part of ongoing efforts to deliver infrastructure projects to the Town of Saugerties, Hinchey previously secured \$500,000 to relocate the intersection of Tissal Road and Kings Highway 1,200 feet north of its previous location, enhancing safety for motorists and commercial traffic.